

## EU Will Keep Working to Preserve Iran Nuclear Deal: Mogherini

HELSINKI - The European Union will work to preserve the 2015 nuclear deal with Iran and would welcome any moves to add to its conditions, EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini said on Friday.

"My role...is to preserve the full implementation of the existing agreements. Again if something else can be built on it, this would be welcomed and accompanied by the European Union," Mogherini told reporters during an EU foreign ministers meeting in Helsinki.

The deal has been in jeopardy since the United States withdrew from it last year and reimposed economic sanctions on Iran, seeking



to push Tehran into wider security concessions including curbs on its ballistic missile program. New hope of unblocking the political impasse emerged after Iran's foreign minister made a

flying visit for talks with host France at the G7 summit in Biarritz last Sunday. "If this new momentum is real, this can build on the work that we have been doing for years,"

Mogherini said, referring to the existing treaty with Iran, called the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action. The 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and international powers aimed to curb Iran's nuclear activities in exchange for the lifting of many international sanctions on Tehran.

Mogherini declined to answer directly when asked if the United States now demanded that Iran to do more than just going back in line with the existing deal's commitments.

"Our work is to continue to ensure that there is full compliance from the Iranian side to its nuclear commitments," she said. (Reuters)

## Neighbor News

### No Dialogue Until India Reverses 'Illegal Annexation' of IOK, Writes PM Imran in NYT

ISLAMABAD - "Dialogue can start only when India reverses its illegal annexation of Kashmir, ends the curfew and lockdown, and withdraws its troops to the barracks," wrote Prime Minister Imran Khan, in his opinion piece for The New York Times.

The article, titled "The world can't ignore Kashmir. We are all in danger", was published on Friday, coinciding with the government's call to observe Kashmir Hour across the country show solidarity with

Kashmiris in India-occupied Kashmir, whose rights were stripped by the Indian government earlier this month.

Cities came to a standstill as tens of thousands of people poured onto the streets while the national anthems of Pakistan and Kashmir played across television and radio. Traffic came to a standstill, traffic lights were switched off and trains stopped briefly as part of the premier's campaign to draw global attention to the plight of the Kashmiris. (Agencies)

### Iran Open to Talks on Implementing Existing Nuclear Deal, Not A New One: Zarif

TEHRAN - Iran's foreign minister says the country will not renegotiate its 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, but is open to talks on finding ways to implement the existing accord.

"We are ready to talk and consult with others on how to best implement this deal. We are talking about Europe coming to comply with its own obligations under the deal," Mohammad Javad Zarif told Malaysia's official news agency Bernama.

Zarif said the country is prepared to hold talks with all parties concerned to find ways forward in fulfilling the JCPOA obligations, but will not renegotiate the 2015 deal as it had been carefully negotiated. "We (have) already talked to the US exten-

sively for over two years and we've reached a conclusion ... that was 159-page long... it is a serious agreement, (including) almost all aspects of the nuclear issues as well as the aspect of the US sanctions against Iran," he said.

Back on Thursday, Zarif told reporters in Kuala Lumpur that the US must return to the nuclear agreement and end its economic terrorism against the Islamic Republic as a prerequisite for negotiations.

"The United States is engaged in an economic war against the Iranian people and it won't be possible for us to engage with the United States unless they stop imposing a war and engaging in economic terrorism against the Iranian people," Zarif said. (Press TV)

### Iran to Open Bank Branch in India to Boost Trade: Report

TEHRAN - Iran will reportedly open a branch of its Bank Pasargad in India in the next 2-3 months to help boost trade between the two nations to bypass the US unilateral economic sanctions which have blocked international banking channels.

Financial Express quoted Iran's Ambassador to India Ali Chegeni as saying this week that Iranian bank, Pasargad, has received all necessary approvals including from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to commercial banking operations.

"It [Bank Pasargad] will start operations in 2-3 months," he said on sidelines of an industry event in India.

Oil was the biggest commodity traded between the two countries with India buying on an average \$1 billion worth of crude oil from the Persian Gulf nation every month. But, after the reimposition of economic sanctions on Iran by the US in November last year, India's purchase of oil from the Persian Gulf nation was started in the rupee instead of US dollars. (Agencies)

### Alibaba Group to Create 100 Million Jobs, Most of Which in SCO Countries

TASHKENT - One of the largest Chinese companies, Alibaba Group, plans to create 100 million new jobs worldwide in the next few years and support 10 million small enterprises, most of which will be in the countries of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), Trend reports citing Uzbek media.

Executive chairman of Alibaba Group Jack Ma announced this at a meeting with the SCO Secretary General Vladimir Norov during the exhibition "SMART CHINA EXPO -2019", which was held in Chongqing, China.

Ma noted that most of the 100 million jobs that the company plans to create in the coming years will be created in the SCO inasmuch as over 2.5 bil-

lion people live in the member countries of the organization. Of these, 800 million are young people. "This should be our joint work. Alibaba is growing rapidly, but we are proud not of the money we have earned, we are proud of how many jobs we have created," Ma said.

The parties also discussed issues on the development of trade, economic and investment cooperation between SCO and the company. "This is a huge opportunity and a huge responsibility. We are ready to assist the organization in implementing the SCO Member States' Concept of Cooperation in the field of digitalization and information and communication technologies," Ma stated. (Trend)

### Sanctions-Hit Lebanese Bank Denies Hezbollah Ties

BEIRUT - Lebanon's central bank said it would guarantee all "legitimate deposits" in the newly sanctioned Jammal Trust Bank, which on Friday rejected U.S. allegations that it helps to fund Iran-backed Hezbollah.

Washington hit the bank and its subsidiaries with sanctions on Thursday for allegedly facilitating the financial activities of the Shi'ite Hezbollah movement in Lebanon. The U.S. Treasury Department accused the bank of funneling money to the families of

suicide bombers. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said the United States is determined to cut off support in Lebanon for heavily armed Hezbollah, which Washington classifies as a terrorist group. Lebanon's central bank Governor Riad Salameh told Reuters on Friday that it would guarantee money put in the bank by depositors not subject to sanctions. Jammal Trust, a 50-year-old private commercial bank in Lebanon, said it "unequivocally denies all ... (More on P4)...(11)

### Kazakhstan Initiates Creation of Fund to Increase Trade Between IOFS Member Parties

NUR-SULTAN - The Minister of Agriculture of Kazakhstan Saparkhan Omarov has initiated creation of Grain Fund, Trend reports with reference to the press office of the Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan.

The initiative has been proposed during second Ministerial Conference of General Assembly of Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS), which took place on August 29 in Jeddah city of Saudi Arabia. "This fund will allow

to meet the demand of member parties of IOFS, to provide for stage by stage increase of mutual trade of grains manufactured in member countries and to work as a measure for creation of food reserves and provision of humanitarian assistance to member parties during food shortages," the report said.

The concept of the grain fund includes the humanitarian component with use of donor assets and philanthropic foundations. The minister



further proposed to start with grain and flour and if the concept of the fund will prove to be successful the range of food items will be expanded and the measure of mutual supplies with other foods manufactured by ... (More on P4)...(8)

### Destination Remains Obscure for Iran Oil Tanker Sought by US



DUBAI, United Arab Emirates - An Iranian oil tanker pursued by the U.S. on Friday again listed its destination as

Turkey but the Turkish foreign minister added to the confusion by saying the vessel is headed to Lebanon -

statements that were promptly denied in Beirut.

The flurry of contradictory statements further muddies the waters for the Adrian Darya 1, formerly known as the Grace 1, and obscures where its 2.1 million barrels of oil will ultimately go.

The tanker has taken center stage recently amid a crisis roiling the Persian Gulf and escalating tensions between Washington and Tehran after President Donald Trump unilaterally

withdrew America from Iran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers over a year ago. The vessel's detention and later release by Gibraltar has fueled the growing tensions.

The tanker on Friday changed its listed destination in its Automatic Identification System to Iskenderun, Turkey, a small port on the Mediterranean Sea.

However, mariners can input any destination into the AIS, so Turkey may not be its true ... (More on P4)...(9)

### Ebola Death Toll in East Congo Outbreak Climbs Above 2,000

GOMA, Democratic Republic of Congo - The death toll from Democratic Republic of Congo's year-long Ebola outbreak has climbed above 2,000, government data showed on Friday, as responders battle to overcome community mistrust and widespread security problems.

The death in neighboring Uganda of a 9-year-old girl who had tested positive for the virus after entering the country from Congo underscored the challenge

medical teams face containing the disease in border territory with a highly mobile population.

The government team overseeing the response said the number of confirmed and probable cases had also hit a milestone of more than 3,000 in what has become the second-worst epidemic of the virus on record.

Despite the development of an effective vaccine and treaty from Congo underscoring the challenge

### Warsaw, Washington Agree on Locations for New U.S. Troops in Poland: Minister

WARSAW - Warsaw and Washington have agreed on six locations for new U.S. troops to be stationed in Poland, the country's Defence Minister Mariusz Blaszczak said on Friday, a day after Donald Trump canceled a trip to the eastern European nation.

Trump called off his weekend trip due to a hurricane bearing down on Florida, with U.S. Vice President Mike Pence to take his place at events in Poland to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the start of World War Two.

"We have agreed on six locations, we talked about a seventh location," Blaszczak said later ... (More on P4)...(13)

### Turkey in 'Talks' on Buying Russian Su-57 Jet Fighters - Erdogan

ANKARA - Ankara is holding talks on purchasing Su-57 jets from Moscow, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said. But Turkey's foreign minister stressed his country is not giving up hopes on the US unfreezing the F-35 deal.

"Our ministries continue to have meetings with their counterparts [on this issue]," Erdogan told reporters on Friday, after being asked whether Turkey will purchase Su-57s.

The president's words came a few days after he personally inspected the fifth-generation plane during an air show outside Moscow, where its export model was unveiled for the first time.

Turkey began eyeing Russian warplanes after its NATO ally, the US, refused to sell it F-35 jet ... (More on P4)...(14)

### Colombian Rebels' Rearming Ups Pressure for Maduro

BOGOTA, Colombia - A call to arms by former rebel negotiators in Colombia is a blow to the country's fragile peace, but it also provides a tempting target for hawks looking to bring down the person the U.S. accuses of sheltering terrorist groups: Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro.

On Thursday, the former chief negotiator for the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia announced he would resume fighting, alleging the government has failed to uphold the 2016 peace accord and accusing it of standing by as hundreds of social leaders have been slain in rural areas where the



rebels long dominated. Luciano Marín read a long manifesto in a video surrounded by a cadre of 20 heavily armed rebels from what he said was a clandestine camp in Colombia's eastern jungles but which authorities contend was inside Venezuela - long a safe haven for the guerrillas.

Almost immediately, President Iván Duque reached out to Venezuelan opposition leader Juan Guaidó, whose nine-month campaign to unseat Maduro has stalled amid the refusal of Venezuela's military to abandon the embattled leader. For both men, the video was ... (More on P4)...(10)

### Italian PD Leader Calls for Tax Cuts, New Investments

ROME - Italy's next government must cut income taxes to boost consumption, relaunch investment and focus on health and education, the leader of the Democratic Party (PD) said on Friday after talks with Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte.

Conte is looking to form a new coalition and is holding talks with all the parties. The PD has said it will join forces with the anti-establishment

5-Star Movement to create a new government under Conte, but they need to hammer out the details.

PD leader Nicola Zingaretti met Conte for roughly an hour, telling reporters afterwards that the taxes of low-to-middle income workers should be cut. He also said the health service would need at least 10 billion euros (\$11.14 billion) of investments in the next three years. (Reuters)